

**Footprints of WPC**

3011 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue West  
Bradenton, FL 34205  
(941) 748-2848  
Fax: (941) 748-2388

Email: [wpresbyterian@verizon.net](mailto:wpresbyterian@verizon.net)

Website: [www.wpcbradenton.com](http://www.wpcbradenton.com)

Non-Profit Organization  
U. S. Postage Paid  
Manasota, FL 342  
PERMIT #192

Deliver to addressee or current resident.

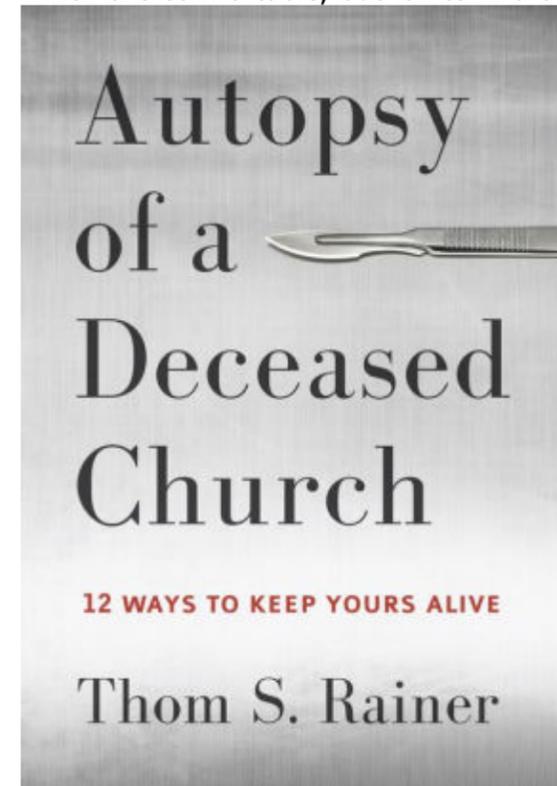
# Footprints of Westminster

March/April 2019

## Pastor's Reflection

### Churchwide Study on where do we go from here

The original Bones was a different type of crime drama. The cause of death always figured into the solution of the problem the investigators were looking at. Often the causes were obvious and the case relatively simple, but often the cause was lost to notice. Sometimes Churches also fall into patterns which are comfortable, but fail to find the reasons of decline.



Our Lenten study, *Autopsy of a Deceased Church*, looks deeply into the causes of the decline of several churches. The findings point to the causes of decline created by practices derived from the anxieties within the congregation. It is for this reason we need to study and talk about these practices.

The book highlights eleven causes of the trouble and explains each with remarkable insight and acuity. These eleven things are difficult to hear and frightening to identify. But once identified, remedial action and better options emerge. It is these remedies that can implement the changes that can transform the congregation's life and future.

I hope each of us will become a part of this study. Books are available at Amazon in print, audible and kindle formats.

The print version is also available at LifeWay Bookstores, Christianbook.Com. If you want us to get this book, call Sandra to order.

The course begins Ash Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 a.m. in the Library.

It is my hope that we as a congregation will study and take to heart the lessons in this book. And that under the leadership of session we can find the path toward hope and health. I will end with an image of THE CHCH. That does not look right. What is missing in this spelling? Answer: "UR." (I know its old and a bit tired but it fits the changes we are seeking to navigate.)

*Rev. John*

**Our Mission is:**



**LOVING GOD,**

We are a community of faith, called together by Jesus Christ to love God with all our heart, and all our soul and all our mind, and all our strength. (Mark 12:30)

**LOVING LIFE,**

Southwest Florida is the best place we know to live out our faith with one another, learning together and loving each other.

**LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS**

We were created by God, each with a unique gift to share with our neighbors. We are encouraging and empowering the sharing of gifts with the world in Jesus' name.

*Happy Birthday to all of you born in March !*

8	Lynn Rezabek	13	George Williams
13	Richard Riley	14	Charlotte Mattson
15	James Beckwith	16	Dr. Joe Newhall
19	Laura "Pat" Dodson	19	Barry Yoder
23	Wilma Hamilton		

*Happy Birthday to all of you born in April !*

1	Dorothy Kellogg	4	Janice Jarrell
6	John Crowell	7	Carol MacFarlane
15	Edith Onugha	19	Kay Lee
21	Fred Chinwuba	21	Alease Hamilton
27	Joan Carlson	27	Chris James

**Upcoming:**

"The task ahead of us is never as great as the Power behind us."

**March 3**, join us at **worship** as The Reverend Victoria Millar will be returning to Westminster's pulpit while Rev. John is on vacation.

**March 6 at 10:30 a.m.** we begin our **Lenten Study series**. For any and all who wish to join us for a study group, Rev. John will lead a study group reading from the book, *Autopsy of a Deceased Church*. There is a sign-up sheet located in the Narthex for you to print your name and please indicate whether you would like to purchase the book yourself or if you'd like the church to purchase it and you reimburse once the books are delivered. There are different rates out there, either by using E Bay, Amazon, Christian bookstores, or from individuals sellers, so the choice is entirely up to you.

**March 6 is Ash Wednesday**. This year we are experimenting with holding the Ash Wednesday service earlier in the day so that those who cannot drive at night may participate in this Lenten service. The service will be at **11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall**.

**March 9** is **Rick Skillman's memorial** at 1 pm in the Sanctuary, with a reception to follow in the Fellowship Hall.

**March 10 is TIME CHANGE!** We are beginning Daylight Saving Time, so you want to set your clocks AHEAD one hour before retiring for the evening so that you won't be late for church that day.

The **Eat-Around-Lunch-Bunch** will meet at the Golden Corral on Saturday, **March 16** at 12 noon. For reservations please call Carol or Peter MacFarlane at 727-4287.

**April 18 is Maundy Thursday**. Again, so that our members who cannot drive at night may participate in this most holy service, we will hold the service earlier in the day. Join us at 1:00 p.m. Thursday for the remembrance of the last supper Jesus had with his disciples.

**Flower Dedications:**

There is only one more day that is available for donation of Sanctuary flowers and that's March 24, 2019. Please call Daphne-Ann Haynes at 776-1085 if you want to sponsor that day.

**To our snowbird members and affiliates:** Please let the church office know when you're leaving so we may mail Footprints and all other correspondence up north.

**Memorials**

<i>In memory of</i>	<i>Received from</i>
Leila Akins	Nancy Shimandle
Leila Akins	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mimbs
Leila Akins	John and Joyce James
Ebbe Arvidson	John and Joyce James
Mike Pinto	John and Joyce James
Polly Gilliam	John and Joyce James
Mary Alice Sutton	Carolyn Fillmore
Lee Akins	Nancy and Wayne Turner
Lee Akins	Mary Beth Richards
Lee Akins	Christina Road
Lee Akins	Brian and Lou Hoopingarner
Lee Akins	Ellen and John Lehfeldt
Lee Akins	Sherrie Alford
Lee Akins	Geoffrey and Joann Thompson
Rick Skillman	Mr. and Mrs. John James
Lee Akins	Denise Seifert
Lee Akins	James and Terrie Langford

**Thank You Notes:**

Dear Friends and Members of Westminster Presbyterian Church,

The Arvidson family would like to say many, many thanks for all the flowers, cards, prayers and visits by deacons and Pastor John during Ebbe's long illness. The memorial service will long be remembered and many thanks to all who helped.

God bless you all, *Priscilla and all the Arvidson family*

**Addendum #21**

**Akins, Leila**, went to her heavenly home on January 12, 2019

**Rev. Arvidson, Ebbe**, went to live with Jesus on 12/15/18

**Bates, Betsy**, deleted from the rolls

**Cooper, Laura**, deleted from the rolls,

**Donatelli, Doris**, deleted from the rolls

**Hancock, Marie**, deleted from the rolls

**Sandlin, Penny**, deleted from the rolls

**Skillman, Richard "Rick"**, went to his heavenly home on January 28, 2019

**Young, Joan**, deleted from the rolls.